



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590



MAY 19 2004

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Calumet Containers Site
SE-5J

**VIA FACSIMILE AND
CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Nortek, Inc.
Re: Northway Products Division
50 Kennedy Plaza
Providence, RI 02903-2360

Attention: Michael J. Sharon, Senior Legal Counsel

Re: Calumet Containers Site, Hammond, Lake County, Indiana
Response to Information Request Sent on March 22, 2004

Dear Mr. Sharon:

On March 22, 2004, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) issued an information request to Crane Plumbing, pursuant to Section 104(e) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e). The information request was served on Crane Plumbing regarding Northway Products Division of Universal-Rundle Corp. by certified mail on March 24, 2004. This information request required Crane Plumbing to provide certain documents and information within 21 days of receipt of that information request. Nortek, Inc., submitted a response to the information request on behalf of Crane Plumbing, which U.S. EPA received on April 12, 2004.

Please be advised that U.S. EPA finds Nortek's response to U.S. EPA's March 22, 2004, information request to be deficient. In particular, Nortek failed to respond to each request as instructed in Attachment A - Instructions, Item 1, of that information request. For this reason, U.S. EPA requests that Nortek respond to each request. For your information, U.S. EPA is enclosing a copy of the 1989 affidavit of John Jagiella, former owner of Calumet Containers Corporation, in which he states that Calumet Containers Corporation did business with Northway in the 1970s. In addition, U.S. EPA requests that Nortek supplement its response by explaining the corporate relationship between Northway Products Division, Rensselaer, Indiana, and Nortek, Inc.

U.S. EPA requests that Nortek provide a complete response immediately. You may, if you desire, assert a business confidentiality claim described by 40 CFR 2.203(b). Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by U.S. EPA only to the extent, and only by means of

the procedures, provided in CFR Part 2, Subpart B. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by U.S. EPA, it may be made available to the public by U.S. EPA without further notice to Nortek.

Continued failure to comply with U.S. EPA's information request by fully, truthfully, and timely responding to all items of that request, or adequately justifying such failure to respond, may subject Nortek to an enforcement action seeking to compel compliance and collect penalties of up to \$32,500 per day of noncompliance pursuant to Section 104(e)(5) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(5) and as adjusted by 69 Fed. Reg. 7121-27 (Feb. 13, 2004) (codified at 40 C.F.R. § 19.4) pursuant to the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. U.S. EPA has the authority to use the information requested herein in an administrative, civil, or criminal action.

Please contact Richard Murawski, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-6721, if you have any legal questions regarding this matter. All other questions should be directed to Sally Jansen, Emergency Enforcement Support Section, at (312) 353-9046. You may fax your response to Ms. Jansen at (312) 886-0753, but if you choose to do so, please call her to alert her at the time you actually send the fax to ensure that she personally receives it. You should also send the original response through the mail to her attention.

Sincerely yours,



William D. Messenger, Chief
Emergency Enforcement Support Section

Northway Products

Barker Chemical

104. Calumet sporadically did business for a five year period with Barker Chemical, a solvent reclaimer located in the south suburbs of Chicago. I believe that Barker Chemical is now out of business.

105. During the time that we did business with Barker, we picked up approximately 2000 to 3000 used drums from them. In general, these drums were not in very good condition and contained excessive residual material.

Carl Gorr

106. Calumet did business with Carl Gorr of Chicago for approximately 8 years beginning in the 1960s.

107. We picked up approximately 3000 to 4000 used paint pails per year from Carl Gorr. We did not sell any reconditioned pails to Carl Gorr. The Carl Gorr pails contained some paint residue.

Northway

108. The company did business with Northway located in Rensselaer, Indiana for approximately 3 to 4 years in the 1970s. We picked up approximately 500 to 600 used drums per year from them.

E. 6
5-19-04

bcc:	Richard Murawski, ORC	C-14J
	Verneta Simon, OSC	SE-5J
	John Maritote, EESS	SE-5J
	Sally Jansen, EESS	SE-5J
	Denise Battaglia, Public Affairs	P-19J
	Records Center	SMR-7J

**CALUMET CONTAINERS SITE
HAMMOND, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA**

INADEQUATE RESPONSE FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION REQUEST

Sent to: Nortek, Inc.
Re: Northway Products Div.
Attn.: Michael J. Sharon, Sr. Legal Counsel
50 Kennedy Plaza
Providence, RI 02903-2360

Date sent: **MAY 19 2004**